



**Annual Report
2016-2017**

**University Women's Club of Vancouver
Total Membership as of June 5, 2017: 459**

Board of Directors

President	Cleta Brown
First Vice President	Thérèse Soong
Second Vice President	Wendy Orvig
Secretary	Pamela Addinall
Treasurer	Ann Stirrat
Education	Diane Richer
House	Dianne Dixon
Membership	Laurie Dutton-Jones
Member Relations	Louann McCurdy
Member-at-Large	Krista Klein

Board of Trustees

Chair	Gwen Smith
Treasurer	Pat Facer
Secretary	Susan Fielden

Hycroft Heritage Preservation Foundation Directors

Pam Addinall	Louise Corral
Cleta Brown	Sue Forshaw
Dianne Dixon	Mary Stewart
Ann Stirrat	

Mission Statement

The University Women's Club of Vancouver, part of a worldwide organization for university and professional women, promotes fellowship, social responsibility and public education through scholarships and bursaries, volunteer action and outstanding programs.

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PRESIDENT

The UWCV continued to be a very active Club, engaging members and the general public in a variety of ways. Our committees and interest groups are vibrant, creative and never lacking for ideas, projects, activities or work. These are the heartbeat of our community. Thank you to all members who regularly participate, lead, volunteer or join in with these groups. You make our club a better and unique women's organization.

Thanks to the work (and play) of our committees and interest groups, our membership numbers are strong, our calendar is always full and the house rings with cheerful noise or a warm peace, often at the same time. Our gardens are beautiful and the house furnished with style and functionality. The new floral displays in the foyer each week are breathtaking and add a special appeal when one enters the house.

This year we faced the unexpected challenge of losing two senior managers in close succession. Many thanks to the Board directors, committee chairs and others who stepped up their involvement and helped me to manage while we searched for new senior staff. We hired a Finance Director, **Sandra Penny** and a Hospitality Director, **Alberto Cortes**. It became increasingly clear that the Hospitality Director was undertaking many tasks and responsibilities beyond the Hospitality mandate and that he had the experience and skillset to do so, therefore the decision was made to promote Alberto Cortes to General Manager. As we are in the middle of a transitional phase from a volunteer run operation to one that is professionally managed and simultaneously in a strategic planning process the General Manager has had a busy, sometimes chaotic and not always clearly defined role to execute. Fortunately Alberto is a calm and capable person who is rising to the challenges of a change management role. And Sandra has proven to have excellent accounting and financial skills, so we have the beginnings of a very strong senior management team.

We have enjoyed some wonderful improvements in the food and beverage offerings this year. Dining at Hycroft is delicious and often the best value in town. We are undertaking major improvements in our kitchen to enable the Club to further increase the choices in meal selections, service times, in short, to bring us closer to a restaurant-like capacity. Our chef, **Benedict Haines**, is producing fantastic meals with a great amount of patience and resourcefulness given the current state of our kitchen.

The management of the house as a facility has been ably taken over in large part by the General Manager and the Facilities Supervisor, with large project help from a professional project manager. We have been working towards this arrangement as the size and costs of Hycroft to maintain, repair and improve is beyond the role of volunteers or non-professionals. It has been very satisfying to finally be just one small step away from officially opening the accessibility chairlift to the Ballroom.

The Club has taken an important step forward in commencing a new strategic plan. The previous plan's goals have been met in terms of the directions we determined to take on finance, membership growth and operational management. But the challenges of membership growth remain as we compete in an environment of high end clubs which have superior modern facilities and larger memberships and resources. Women have many choices, many interests. We have to determine how we can be relevant and attractive to women, how we can distinguish ourselves from the competition and how we can offer what they cannot provide so well, and how we can offer some degree of what they do offer. The fact that we are a women's club with a valuable property and clubhouse makes us unique. But we cannot assume that this will ensure a full membership, sustaining our club for another century. Our strategic plan will look at how we can meet these challenges and thereby continue to grow membership, provide new services, amenities and programs and maintain and grow a strong relationship with our community. It is always about change; we continue to evolve, and the responsibility of our turn as stewards of the UWCV is to do this intelligently and intentionally.

I am proud and humbled to have been your President for the past two years. Thank you to all members and staff for your friendly and generous support. I especially wish to give thanks and recognition to the Board of Directors, whose volunteerism comes with great leadership responsibilities

and who exercised their roles with conscientious enthusiasm. Thank you **Thérèse Soong**, First Vice President; **Wendy Orvig**, Second Vice President; **Ann Stirrat**, Treasurer; **Pamela Addinall**, Secretary; **Dianne Dixon**, House Chair; **Diane Richer**, former Education Chair; **Judith Frost**, former Membership Chair; **Louann McCurdy**, Member Relations Director; **Denise Levine**, former Member at Large; **Laurie Dutton-Jones**, Membership Chair; and **Krista Klein**, Member at Large.

In conclusion members can be pleased that the Club is in reasonable financial health and management with growing membership engagement. We are underway with important changes but with caution, expertise, creativity and good faith, we will carry on building upon the great legacy we have been fortunate to inherit and lead our way.

Dux Femina Facti
Cleta Brown

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Since June 2016, the Board of Directors of the UWCV began a strategic planning process to help navigate our club through the next few years. The club has continued to grow in membership and we have maintained further positive financial stability. Our advocacy work continues to support the community around us, and we as members continue the stewardship of our home, Hycroft. The continued work of the strategic planning team should provide us with the map and tools to continue on this path.

In my role as First VP, I attended our monthly board meetings, have been pleased to participate in the Human Resources Oversight Committee and continued on as a member of the Finance Committee. I attended regular weekly meetings with the President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer and managers to review club business. Throughout my time on the board, there have been challenges to face and obstacles to overcome, but overall, the experience has been a positive one. The board has worked together diligently, mindfully and collaboratively, for the benefit of all members, and I am grateful to the members for allowing me the privilege of contributing together with this outstanding group of women.

Thérèse Soong

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

During the 2016-2017 year, my duties have included participation in the by-laws review to be in compliance with the New Societies Act of BC. I continued to assist the President by attending weekly meetings of the Executive Committee which provides oversight to operations, including HR, and to the member-staff interface of Club activities and business activities. I have participated in the strategic plan update as team leader of the Human Resources section. I have been involved with a review of HHPF functions and future potential of that organization.

Wendy Orvig

SECRETARY

I attended and recorded the Minutes of the UWCV Board Meetings, UWCV General Meetings and HHPF meetings throughout the year. I ensured that all changes to the Policy & Procedures Manual adopted by the Board of Directors were amended accordingly. I was an active participant on the Board of Directors.

I was involved in the Strategic Planning undertaking which began in the fall of 2016. As part of the Strategic Planning Governance Sub-Committee, I generated a Board of Directors Orientation Manual.

As past Members' Relations Director, I provided insight and recommendations to the current Members' Relations Director.

I participated in the Advocacy Workshop and the Strategic Planning Workshop.

Pamela Addinall

MEMBER RELATIONS DIRECTOR

This year I had several occasions to engage in informal conflict resolution in disputes between members and between members and Club employees. I referred to our Member Behaviour Policy in

these instances. All matters were kept in the strictest of confidence.

Our Member Behaviour Policy was also put to use this year when considering re-applications for membership.

I participated in the Membership and Program Committees, providing insight between the Board and Committee work. I helped develop the Membership Engagement components of the Strategic Plan. I contributed to the Membership Survey and Advocacy workshop teams.

Finally, cards of condolence, congratulations, etc., were sent out to members, acknowledging important events in their lives.

Louann McCurdy

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

I was appointed to the role of Member-at-Large this past February. This was a great introduction to UWCV board and I have enjoyed being a part of it.

Krista Klein

EDUCATION

The focus of the discussions at our meetings this year has been examining and rewriting our mandate, determining the role of the Education Committee in the UWCV and defining our target audience. This is a work in progress and will be picked up in the coming year by the new chair and committee members. In order to distinguish ourselves from other committees, we will focus entirely on educating our members on educational issues.

The committee hosted four stimulating Ideas Salons:

July 14, 2016 An evening with SFU and UBC Graduate Students each presenting in 3 minutes a synopsis of their thesis

Nov. 2, 2016 Vanessa Pinniger and Jane Munday who spoke of their experiences on a recent working visit to Lesbos helping refugees

Jan. 12, 2017 Evaleen Jaeger Roy who spoke of her experience as Chair of the Board at Emily Carr University of Art and Design

April 18, 2017 An evening with SFU and UBC Graduate Students, each presenting in 3 minutes a synopsis of their thesis

The committee participated in the Advocacy workshop which was held on April 1, 2017 and hosted a tour of the Emily Carr Grad show on May 11, 2017

Diane Richer, Chair

Committee Members: *Rachel Chwang, Tabitha Geraghty, Anne Giardini, Nadereh Houchmard, Beryl Matthewson, Gwen Smith, Aline Smolensky, Sarah Sutherland.*

FINANCE

The past year has been a busy and productive one for the Finance Committee. The Committee met monthly to review the Club's financial statements, discuss financial policies, monitor the progress of financial initiatives and prepare the 2017-2018 fiscal year operating budget and capital budget. We were very happy that the Club was able to realize a surplus for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2017 and that we were able to present a balanced operating budget for the fiscal year 2017-2018.

We were also pleased to be able to present a capital budget for the fiscal year 2017-2018 that addressed both cyclical maintenance and some significant projects proposed for the current year, including completion of the Garaventa lift to the Ballroom, replacement of our aging boiler and a

kitchen upgrade to improve safety and reliability. We also presented a multi-year capital plan that will serve as our roadmap during future years' capital budgeting for undertaking the projects identified in the McGinn engineering report as needed for the long-term preservation of Hycroft.

I appreciate the time and effort that all the members of the Finance Committee give to the Club to ensure that internal controls and proper governance are in place. We are all grateful to Sandra Penny, Manager Finance and Administration, and Alberto Cortes, General Manager, as well as their staff, for their contributions to the Club's positive outcomes in the past year, and especially their efforts to get up to speed in their roles in the Club after joining us during the past year. We look forward to working together with them on the ongoing improvements to the Club's operations and financial position that will help to ensure a successful future for the Club.

Ann Stirrat, Chair & Treasurer

Committee Members: *Cleta Brown, Dianne Dixon, Ingrid Kanters, Wendy Lee, Wendy Orvig, Thérèse Soong, Pat Van der Flaes.*

HOUSE

The House Committee had another busy year. The focus was on finishing the Lift to the Ballroom. Held up by permits and inspections it was finally finished and opened at the end of June. Now having a project manager, Ian Barrie, the weight of finding bids and overseeing projects has been lifted from volunteers. Also Alberto Cortes is now Manager and many concerns and projects will be taken on by staff. Increasingly the House Committee will be becoming a one of recommendations and hands on for Garden and House Furnishings but overseers of large projects.

Dianne Dixon, Chair

Committee members: *MJ Ankenman, Maureen Attwell, Honorée Findlay, Sonja Inkster, Joanne Melville.*

HOUSE FURNISHINGS SUB-COMMITTEE

The house furnishings committee has been responsible for coordinating the repair and reupholstery of the furniture in the drawing room and the set of chairs used on the second floor. The Farris room was reconfigured to better suit the needs of the members with a meeting table as well as a lounge area. We are now enjoying weekly professionally arranged flower arrangements for the grand foyer and the hospitality staff are able to use the flowers in other rooms to grace our club with elegance and style.

MJ Ankenman, Chair

HOUSE EXTERIOR SUB-COMMITTEE

The House Exterior Committee, during the past twelve months, continued with the regular maintenance of gutter cleaning, power washing and window cleaning around the House. Sunken drainage potholes in the parking lot were repaired and the Committee continued to research the costs and materials which might be used in the future to resurface the entire parking lot to prevent more irregular surfacing sink holes to occur. Drainage continues to be a concern in the parking lot. Committee members also researched various options and designs for the garbage and recycling bins on the east side of the House as this area is unsightly for both members and rental groups. Consultation continues with the General Manager on this issue.

Committee members also worked with Project Manager, Iain Barrie, on the completion of the Ballroom Access Lift, choosing carpet materials for the stairs and ensuring that the stained glass panels on the wall of the lift area were similar to those already along the ballroom south wall. While the acquisition of City Permits for work was a very slow process, once these were in place, completion of the project occurred rapidly and the finished product was attractive and highly acceptable to members.

The House Exterior Committee worked with the Garden Committee to engage a local contractor to repair the pergola posts in the rose garden to prevent further wood rot at the bases of the posts. A repair was also made to a sagging fence area bordering on the strata to the east of the House. The Committee Chair would like to thank all members of the House Exterior Committee for their wise suggestions and work this year.

Committee members: *Cathy Barford, Margaret Couch, Helen Goodland, Margaret Imrie, Sonja Inkster, Eleanore Lawrey, Cathy Lightfoot, Judy Troesch*

GARDEN SUB-COMMITTEE

We have made our trees a focus of work this year after a number of weather related events. We lost a Frisia robinia which was blown down in a windstorm and a Norway Maple situated at the edge of the Juliet garden bed lost several large limbs in a second major windstorm. Major broken limbs were also pruned from a Big Leaf Maple and a Lombardy Poplar to preserve tree health and structure. After these incidents, Bartlett Tree Experts reported that a second Frisia robinia was leaning dangerously over the bus stop below the club on 16th Avenue and this tree was finally removed this spring as it was a potential liability to the club. The tree report also indicated that the heritage Sequoia requires bracing to support heavy branches and the heritage Beech tree would benefit from significant interior pruning. Additionally, the heavy snows caused broken limbs on several trees; two cherries, a large camellia, a mountain ash and an elderberry.

Work has continued on the recently discovered reflecting pool in the northwest corner of the garden. Cathy Barford has toiled mightily to dig out vast quantities of soil and has exposed the entire border of the pool. Heritage experts from the City of Vancouver have examined the site and arborists have looked at the root structure of the surrounding trees to provide advice on future work. The garden committee sincerely hopes that the Board will give serious consideration to furthering the restoration of the reflecting pool as it has been an exciting discovery which should be pursued.

A further extension of the irrigation system along the upper east beds was completed this January. The plans for a woodland garden beneath the Copper Beech have been shelved for the present time as other urgent needs in the garden have overtaken our resources.

The routine needs of the garden such as care of the house vines, annual plantings, and pruning of hedges and rhododendrons continue to be planned and monitored by the committee. Work parties to weed and plant provide opportunities for members to enjoy time in the garden and company together. Members who enjoy working in a garden are warmly invited to join us in this friendly past-time.

The committee hopes that members will take time to wander throughout this wonderful garden. It is a treasure which is maintained for your pleasure.

Sonja Inkster & Joanne Melville, Co-Chairs

Committee Members: *Maureen Attwell, Cathy Barford, Diana Belhouse, Jenny Davis Kedgley, Honorée Findley, Heather Gardiner-Lohn, Ann Kent, Julia Lucey, Margaret Parrott.*

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Committee is responsible for the recruitment of new members and the retention of existing members. To date we have exceeded 450 members which can be attributed to a hardworking and dedicated committee and the Marketing and Member Recruitment Coordinator, Kate Duggan.

From the results of our 2016 Membership Survey our committee has realized that we need to organize a conscious effort to involve new members in events, interest groups and committees. We know that engagement opportunities can strengthen member retention. The Membership committee has initiated two new ambitions such as our Koffee Klatches and Happy Hour, to address more member engagement and relationship building in an informal setting.

We are fully committed to updating the on-boarding process for new members and to track its effectiveness. We have a new undertaking which is referred to as Harmony Circles that is an innovative program to reach out and engage new members in the club and its activities.

We hold monthly Prospective Member Receptions and New Member Orientations. The incentive for members to refer new members and receive a discount on their own dues is still in effect and has also

been a very effective way in obtaining new members. These are attended by the Chair as well as member ambassadors from the committee.

Speakeasy and the Members Barbecue were implemented by the Membership Committee. Both Club Connections and the Millennial Interest Group have developed from the Membership Committee. Special receptions to honour members in specific categories have also been initiated by this Committee. Member profiles are submitted to Hycroft Happenings every month.

In conclusion, our committee is looking forward to continuing to contribute towards the rewarding membership experience that this Club can provide to its members.

Laurie Dutton-Jones, Chair

Committee Members: *Charlotte Burns, Hana Carbert, Elena Chepil, Susan Davis, Sharon Fuchs, Joanne Gaspard, Jean Hurst, Margaret Imrie, Maureen Kling, Eleanore Lawrey, Louann McCurdy, Mitra Michnik, Gwen Smith, Elizabeth Snow, Farah Surani, Susan Woff.*

TRUST FUND FOR EDUCATION

The Trust Fund for Education is composed of three elected trustees, one of which must be a past president. It is a three year term.

The Trust Fund for Education of The University Women's Club of Vancouver is directed by the Constitution and Bylaws to support women's education. Bursaries and scholarships are provided to the following institutions: University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, Emily Carr University, Vancouver Community College, The British Columbia Institute of Technology, Langara College and North Burnaby Secondary School.

In the past year the Trust Fund supported approximately \$40,000 in annual awards and \$35,000 in endowed funds. All awards are listed in the Membership Directory. The Trustees meet regularly with the universities and colleges and our own financial administrators to identify areas where support is needed. In March we held our biennial Reception for Recipients which was well attended by recipients, their families, members and donors.

Our recipient speakers brought us all to tears as they told how the funds they received assisted them in furthering their education. We are in the final stages of a project with The Trust Fund for Education and CFUW 100th Anniversary Committee and have appealed to members to donate so that our goal can be realized. It is donors and their generosity that keep us on top and let us assist students to achieve their goals. Please continue with your generous support. Thank you sincerely for your help.

Gwen Smith (Chair), Patricia Facer (Treasurer), Susan Fielden (Secretary)
Trustees

HYCROFT HERITAGE PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

According to the Society Act, "the purpose of the Foundation is to fund, facilitate, promote and carry out activities and programs which promote the conservation, preservation and maintenance of the building and grounds of Hycroft." The Foundation does this by receiving income from various events such as Christmas at Hycroft, chamber music concerts, heritage lectures and tours. It also depends on fundraising and member donations. The major portion of the income is used to pay the expenses of Christmas at Hycroft, and a portion of the property taxes and insurance for Hycroft.

We continue to explore the many ways of legacy donating such as bequests and monthly giving, so that the Hycroft members cherish today will continue to be a home for future members.

Mary Stewart, Sue Forshaw, Louise Corral
Heritage Directors

CONTINUING COMMITTEES

ARCHIVES

The Archives of the University Women's Club and the CFUW BC Council are housed on the third floor (Attic) at Hycroft. The Archives Committee meets most Wednesday mornings and UWCV members are encouraged to contact the Archives with questions or to make an appointment.

The list of plans is complete. Members prepared a reference guide to the files of the Access and Access Implementation Committees. A full list of Club members was prepared. Members are currently reviewing the files of the Membership Committee and the Garden Committee.

This year, students from two university programs visited Hycroft – a student from the Heritage Conservation course of the BCIT Architectural Science program consulted documents related to the planning of conservation of Hycroft and a class of students from the Kwantlen University Interior Design program toured Hycroft. The Archives also organized a tour for out-of-town visitors interested in the series, "When Calls the Heart" which has used Hycroft as a location. At any time, members of the Archives Committee welcome the opportunity to conduct house tours for the public which are organized for the benefit of HHPF.

On behalf of the University Women's Club of Vancouver, the Archives Committee is an Associate Institutional member of the Archives Association of British Columbia for the year 2017-2018. Documents deposited in the Vancouver City Archives, still have not yet been accessioned (Add.MSS.872). Minutes, plans and other official documents are the backbone of the collection but contributions from members are as necessary a component of Club records and are most definitely welcomed.

Cathy Barford, Chair

Committee Members: *Marlene Adam, Charlotte Burns, Susan Fielden, Joyce Grant, Jenny Davis Kedgley, Krista Klein, Sonja Marchlewitz, Margaret Parrot, Elaine Thompson.*

COMMUNICATIONS

This committee oversees communications within and external to UWCV, ensuring consistent high standards. It is comprised of the President representing the board, Chief Privacy Officer, Editors of the Member Handbook, Hycroft Happenings, Hycroft Highlights, and weekly email blast, website liaison representatives, Convenor of Christmas at Hycroft, Chair of Membership Committee, General Manager, and MMRC. It is responsible for content and format of notices and print materials for use in the Club, its foundations, and its activities, as well as maintaining a social media presence through our Facebook page and group and Twitter. We assist the President and the board with emails, communication, and solicitation by members when requested.

MMRC Kate Duggan prepares the external Hycroft Highlights, makes additions to the website as directed, and posts to social media in the portion of her job responsible to the Communications Committee.

uwcvcancouver.ca is increasingly a membership and rentals resource. Newly added is an Advocacy section, regularly updated by Pat Patton, liaison representative of Federation, Education, and Status of Women & Human Rights Committees.

The password protected Member Only section keeps current with: interactive Membership Directory, Hycroft Happenings, Constitution & Bylaws, Rules, and Procedures, Event Planning materials, and templates, for reference and to download. The Member to Member Business Directory will become a privilege of membership for members to post their business connections from the coming club year.

As the Club moves to professional management under our new General Manager, it is anticipated some responsibilities of this committee will become staff functions.

Louise Corral, Chair

Committee Members: *Cleta Brown (President), MJ Ankenman, Dianne Dixon (Interim HH Editor), Kathy Mair (C@H Convenor), Wendy Orvig (Chief Privacy Officer), Paula Waslen, Laurie Dutton-Jones (Interim Chair Membership Committee), Alberto Cortes, Kate Duggan.*

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee meets at the call of the chair and responds to requests from the Board of Directors for additions, changes and/or periodic updating of the Club's Constitution and By-laws to ensure that the documents reflect current practice and that the Club is in compliance with the Societies Act of British Columbia. The Committee also may make recommendations to the Board. Changes proposed to the Constitution and Bylaws must be presented to the membership for approval and filed with the Government of BC Registries.

This year the Committee had nine meetings as well as communicating internally by email. The main focus of our work has been on reviewing the changes required by the new BC Societies Act which came into effect on November 28, 2016. To prepare for the transitioning of our Constitution and Bylaws, members from our committee attended workshops, liaised with external counsel, reported to our Board of Directors and provided information to members at a meeting held in November as well at General Meetings in the new year and in Hycroft Happenings. Club members will vote at the AGM in June on whether or not we will register as a Member-Funded Society. The work on the revised bylaws is ongoing and it will not be until the fall of this year that the whole revised package will be brought forward to all members for approval.

During this past Club year, the Chair of the committee also responded to requests for information from Committee Chairs and individual Club members.

A copy of the current Constitution and Bylaws is kept in a binder in the Oak Room and is also printed in the Club Membership Directory.

The Chair is grateful to the members of our committee for their extra hours of work and attendance at meetings to carry out our tasks and wishes to thank all of them for their contributions to discussions leading up to the preparation of recommendations to the Board and to Club members.

Elizabeth Gautschi, Chair

Committee Members: *Rose Beatty, Cleta Brown (Ex-Officio), Sue Brown, Dawn Longshaw, Rosemary Mallory, Gwen Smith, Mary Stott, Shayda Kassam, Louise Corral.*

FEDERATION

The Federation Committee provides a liaison between The University Women's Club of Vancouver (UWCV), the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) and its Provincial arm, CFUW BC Council, and the Graduate Women International (GWI.). Information is distributed to Club members through the Club newsletter, General Meetings and in printed form in the Oak Room.

The UWCV is one of many clubs (8,000+ members across Canada) that make up membership of CFUW. The CFUW AGM held in St. Catherines, ON from June 23 – 25, 2016, was attended by Club members **President Cleta Brown, Pat Patton** (Chair, Federation Committee), **Cathy Barford, Fiorenza Albert Howard, Linda Russell, Beryl Matthewson** (representing South Delta), **Jo Swann and Nadereh Houchmand**. Five Resolutions were passed: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls: Ending the Marginalization of Indigenous Women in Canadian Society; Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD): Diagnosis, Intervention and Support Plan for Children, Adults and Families Affected by FASD; To Strengthen the Pest Management Regulatory Agency of Health Canada in its Mandate to Approve register and Monitor Pesticide, in a timely manner, as well as to protect the health of Canadians and the environment; Electoral Reform: Changing the First Past the Post Electoral System to Proportional Representation in Canada; Sustainable Development Goals, also known as Global Goals.

CFUW 100th Anniversary Scholarship Project:

Since 2015, the UWCV has been raising funds to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the founding of CFUW through the CFUW 100th Anniversary Scholarship Project. Our Club set ourselves a goal of \$10,000 and we are proud to say we have achieved our goal. Funds raised are being awarded for scholarships and bursaries locally through the UWCV Trust Fund for Education and nationally through the CFUW Charitable Trust. Our sincere thanks go to all of our members who have supported this project for women's education over the past three years through a Raffle, the sale of Emergency Preparedness Kits and Arts Cards, the International Women's Day event in 2017 and direct donations.

Special thanks to the UWCV artists who donated their artwork to the design of the Art Cards - **Joyce Goodwin, Sarah Johnstone, Denise Levine, Sonja Mocnik, Mary Stott** and **Eva Wideman**, and to the Planning Committee for their dedication and hard work: **Elaine Carty, Pat Facer, Susan Fielden, Elizabeth Gautschi, Lynne Kent, Gwen Smith, Pat Patton, Juanita Tucker** and **Bev Wong**.

Graduate Women International:

The GWI Triennial was held in August 2016 in Capetown, South Africa, with our member **Beryl Matthewson** as one of 10 Canadian delegates attending. During the meeting a three-year Dues Increase was approved by the attending National Federations and Associations (NFAs) of, in CDN funds, \$12 (2016), \$7 (2017) and \$7 (2018). This Dues Increase will be presented at the 2017 CFUW AGM to be held in Richmond, BC at the end of June.

Advocacy:

Aging Out of Care in BC – Study Circle Project

The UWCV took on a significant advocacy project this year in conjunction with CFUW BC Council. Together with First Call BC: Child & Youth Advocacy Coalition and through funding from the Vancouver Foundation, Study Circles were conducted by four CFUW Clubs throughout the province. The UWCV Study Circle was made up of 14 members led by two volunteer community facilitators Lisa Bryson, a community member with experience with the child and youth care system, and Ashley Milner, a young adult who has aged out of care in BC. In addition to the two facilitators, the group included UWCV members **Gwen Smith, Alexandra Warren** and **Patricia Grohne**, five community members and four young adults. Three documents resulted from this Project and are available through UWCV and CFUW BC Council. Our thanks to **Patricia Grohne** for Chairing the CFUW BC Council *Process Committee* which guided this Project on behalf of CFUW BC Council and to **Marg Huber** and **Pat Patton** who were members of the Committee and **Rachel Malek** who was a member of the Committee as well as the Project Coordinator.

Communication:

Over the course of the year we enhanced our communication through articles and information on the UWCV public and members' websites and increased the information in Hycroft Happenings. Special thanks to **Collette Oseen** for providing information and links to articles of interest to our members and to **Marlene Adam** for writing the Advocacy Interview section of our website. Thank you to **Jo Swann** and **Alexandra Warren** for researching and providing information on CFUW and GWI for the website. Special thanks also to **Kate Duggan**, UWCV Marketing and Membership Recruitment Coordinator, for assisting us through the establishment of our communication methods.

First Call BC representative:

Our most sincere thanks to **Patricia Grohne** for her passion and leadership on issues of child poverty and for being the UWCV representative to First Call BC: Child & Youth Coalition for the past three years. Thanks also to **Joan Beaty** for providing backup support to Patricia as our representative.

Vancouver Council of Women:

UWCV members hosted the Vancouver Council of Women luncheon at its monthly meeting on May 1st; thanks to coordinator **Bev Wong** (new UWCV Representative), **Elizabeth Gautschi, Carole Anne Soong** and **Marg Huber**.

Advocacy Workshop:

A members' Workshop was held April 1st to explore what advocacy means to members of UWCV. The results of the Workshop will be further discussed with members over the course of 2017. The Workshop was organized by **Karen Ballentyne, Maureen Kling, Louann McCurdy, Pat Patton** and **Erica Pinsky** with assistance during the Workshop from **Rose Beatty, Patricia Grohne, Lynne Kent, Rachel Malek** and **Aline Smolensky** and refreshments provided by **Bev Wong** and **Mary Lou Galbraith**.

CFUW Advocacy Project:

UWCV supported the first phase of the CFUW research project *A Woman Friendly University – 25 Years Later* (Update of the November 1992 Women in Universities Survey).

Our events through the year:

We worked together with the Status of Women and Human Rights Committee to celebrate **Person's Day** on October 18th, 2016 with speaker Dean Catherine Dauvergne, Dean of the UBC Allard School of Law and the **National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women** on December 6th, with guest speaker Maggie Rayner, author of *"In Polygamy's Shadow: From a Mormon Childhood to a Life of Choice."* Thanks to our members, \$1080 was raised through this event for scholarships and bursaries to the CFUW L'Ecole Polytechnique Commemorative Award.

At the October **General Members' Meeting** we were pleased to welcome Rachel Malek and Johnny Tuktuk as guest speakers and Ashley Milner as support for their presentation during which Rachel and Johnny spoke compassionately about their personal experiences as youth aging out of care in BC and the difference our Club can make through the Aging Out of Care in BC Study Circles Project and advocating to the provincial government for changes.

On March 8th, 2017 our Club celebrated **International Women's Day** with a panel of speakers and group discussion with speakers Paula Gallagher, *60 Million Girls*; Lois Nahirney, *Chair of the Premier's Women's Economic Council & Co-Chair and We for She*; and Dr. Dorothy Shaw, *VP Medical Affairs, BC Women's Hospital & Clinical Professor, UBC* who challenged and encouraged us to consider the real and potential impact we can make through our actions in support of the education of women & girls everywhere. Special thanks to **Cleta Brown, Elizabeth Gautschi, Sheila Pepper** and **Pat Patton** for coordinating this event.

On April 27th, 2017, a **UWCV Provincial Election Forum** with Women Candidates was held. Led by **Elizabeth Gautschi** and Committee members **Marlene Adam, Patricia Grohne, Louann McCurdy, Erica Pinsky, Aline Smolensky, Carole Anne Soong, Juanita Tucker**, we hosted this Election Forum for members and the public.

UN CSW 61, New York, NY:

UWCV members **Elizabeth Gautschi** and **Elys Lagumbay** were part of the 20-person delegation of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) to the United National Commission on the Status of Women 61st meeting in New York from March 13-24, 2017. The CSW is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. Other local members attending were **Penny Bickerton** (CFUW Coquitlam), **Jo Swan** (CFUW South Delta) and, representing the National Council of Women, **Beryl Matthewson** and **Nadereh Houchmand**.

Prospective Members Receptions and New Members Orientations:

As part of our priority to improve communication about Advocacy for members, Federation Committee members provided information at all of the Prospective Members Receptions and New Members Orientations through the year. Our immense thanks to Rose Beatty, **Elizabeth Gautschi, Patricia Grohne, Elys Lagumbay** and **Lynne Kent**.

CFUW BC Council AGM and CFUW AGM

UWCV members **Cathy Barford, Pat Patton, Beryl Matthewson, Rosemary Mallory, Margaret Parrott** and **Bev Wong** attended the **CFUW BC Council AGM** in Kelowna on May 26-28, 2017.

Thanks to **Cathy Barford** for organizing the visual display in the UWCV Gallery on the history of CFUW for the **CFUW AGM** in Richmond June 22-24, 2017 and to Cathy and **Elizabeth Gautschi** for organizing the UWCV Tea & Tour of Hycroft as one of the post-Conference tours on Sunday, June 25th.

Finally, special thanks to **Alexandra Warren** for keeping track of our letters to elected officials and the responses received.

Thank you to all the UWCV Federation Committee members for all their hard work and support this year. We welcome new members at any time during the year.

Pat Patton, Chair

Committee Members: *Marlene Adam, Pam Addinall, Rose Beatty, Joan Beatty, Elizabeth Gautschi, Patricia Grohne, Marg Huber, Lynne Kent, Elys Lagumbay, Rachel Malek, Rosemary Mallory, Beryl Matthewson, Louann McCurdy, Pat Patton, Sheila Pepper, Erica Pinsky, Carole Anne Soong, Jo Swann, Alexandra Warren, Bev Wong (plus 20 others on the mailing list who receive advocacy mailings but are unable to attend meetings).*

INTEREST GROUPS

Interest groups provide club members with opportunities to participate in their favourite pastimes and to learn new skills while enjoying the fellowship of members who share similar interests. There are currently over 30 interest groups that offer a wide range of activities and interests to our existing membership at UWCV. The groups host a variety of activities that take place both on and off-site throughout the week, during the day and in the evening. New interest group ideas are always welcome and encouraged. Thank you to the convenors and co-convenors for everything you do for your groups, from making new members feel welcome, to all the work you put in to keep your groups running smoothly

Joanne Gaspard, Chair

LIBRARY

This year our collection increased by the purchase of 22 new books, and many donations from members. The used book sale basket in the Oak Room continues to be well used by members. Many thanks to donors and to volunteers who help in maintaining the library.

Patricia Whittaker, Librarian

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The Nominations Committee for the Club's 2016 Elections commenced its work on March 14, 2016. The committee met four times as of May 31st.

Call for Nominations was issued on behalf of the Board on March 29th and distributed to members through a separate email or hard copy notification as well as by a posted notice on the Club Bulletin Board. A second Call for Nominations was issued on April 4th following the resignation of Diane Richer as Chair of the Education Committee. As part of its mandate, the Nominations Committee actively worked to secure candidates for nomination concurrently with members' nominations.

Nominations were sought for six Directors: President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Education Chair, Membership Chair and Member-at-Large as well as for a Trustee of the Trust Fund for Education. An interim announcement of nominees was made on April 24th.

Nominations closed on May 1, with candidates nominated for every position. There were two candidates nominated for the positions of First Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Member-at-Large. The President was advised of the need to convene an Elections Committee. Only one candidate was nominated for each of the remaining positions, and they will be declared elected and will take office at the adjournment of the Annual General Meeting on June 13, 2017.

All nominees were provided with information on the responsibilities of their specific role, and next steps, including an invitation to a Meet the Candidates event on May 23rd. On May 8th a list of the nominees, nominee profiles and position duties were distributed to members. Meet the Candidates was advertised in the May issue of Hycroft Happenings and in subsequent weekly alerts.

A final report from the Nominations Committee to the Board of the UWCV will be prepared and delivered to the July board meeting.

Kathy Mair, Chair

Committee Members: *Paula Boleen, Wendy Lee, Kathy Murphy, Pat Patton.*

PERFORMING ARTS

The Performing Arts Committee meets once a month to plan and organize performing arts events.

Performances have featured quite a variety of talent—including concerts by UWCV members, jazz concerts, opera singers and the chamber concerts, which have been ongoing for a number of years.

Susan Mogan & Barbara Warren, Co-Chair

Committee Members: *Dena Alden, Kate Dahlstrom, Donald Falconer, Margaret Fitch, June Katz, Maureen Kling, Elspeth McVeigh, Susanna Peters.*

PROGRAM

In the past year, the program committee organized a total of 10 events for members and guests. These events were extremely well received and many members are asking for a repeat of some of these events in the future. Below is a summary of all the interesting events from past year:

In the summer months, the program committee put on 4 events. In July 2016, 24 members and guests attended the CBC Vancouver Broadcast Centre Newsroom Tour. Furthermore, 14 members indulged themselves with chocolate at the XOXOLAT chocolate tasting event. In August 2016, 26 members participated in the Vancouver Art Gallery Show. Many members gave the art show rave reviews! Lastly in early September members attended a guided tour at the VanDusen Botanical Garden. Many members expressed appreciation to the program committee for planning a series of events during the slow summer months.

On every Thursday in March 2017, the program committee organized a successful Health Series. Topics included: Preventing Falls, Anxiety and Depression, Alzheimer's and Dementia, Nutrition and Wellness and Laughing Yoga. This Health Series was so well received that we are in the middle of planning our next health series for next year! Stay tuned!

Finally, in April 2017, after months of planning, the program committee successfully put on Ladies Night Out. This was a fun event attended by more than 70 members and guests. Members received manicures, facials, new hairdos, make-overs, palm readings, psychic readings and more from a total of 21 vendors. The program committee will try to repeat this success next year!

On behalf of the whole program committee, co-chairs Farah Surani and Kate Zhao would like to thank members and guests who attended our events as well as the staff who helped out during the events. Farah and Kate would also like to thank the entire program committee for their attitude, commitment, and hard work that lead to the success of the events.

Farah Surani & Kate Zhao, Co-Chairs

Committee members: *Donna Allen, Paige Brettle, Nicky de la Roche, Laurie Dutton-Jones, Jean Hurst, Maureen Kling, Eleanore Lawrey, Louann McCurdy, Gwen Smith, Susan Woff, Callie Wong.*

SOCIAL

The Social Committee plans and hosts social events throughout the year as well as covers bar service at all events and meetings. The Committee hosted a very successful Fall Reception, **Jennifer Petersen** executed a fun Members Christmas Party, and **Susanna Peters** arranged and hosted another sold-out Fashion Show featuring our own Club Members as models. Our decorating team of **Lee Dennstedt** and **Paula Boleen** turn every event into a space of beauty and wonder. We have provided bar service for BBQ's, dinners, roasts, Fellowship dinners, C@H Preview Gala, Valentine's dinner and dance, Federation and Status of Women events, Jazz evenings, Christmas, Easter and Mother's Day brunches, annual May President's dinner, and program events. If you enjoy working with a group of fun loving but hardworking women come and join us the first Monday of each month at 10:00am

Maureen Attwell, Chair

Committee Members: *Paula Boleen, Elena Chepil, Nicky de la Roche, Lee Dennstedt, Marianne Kitzul, Susanna Peters, Jennifer Petersen, Patricia Porter, Judy Troesch, Eva Wideman, Eleanore Lawrey, Margaret Imrie, Charlotte Burns, Gwen Smith.*

STATUS OF WOMEN AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The mandate of the SWHR Committee is to promote "awareness of human rights issues - giving specific attention to the legal, economic, social and professional status of women". The committee continues to work collaboratively with our national advocacy team at CFUW and with local women's and human rights' groups.

The advocacy focus for the SW&HR committee continues to be prostitution and human trafficking, under the larger umbrella of a goal to support eradicating violence against women. On September 19 and 20, the committee cosponsored a series of the event with Asian Women Coalition Ending Prostitution, EVE(formerly exploited voices now educating), REED-Resist Exploitation Embrace Dignity, Vancouver Rape RELIEF AND women's Shelter focusing on Bill C-36 and the Nordic Model, vs legalisation of prostitution. Detective Inspector Simon Haggstrom, head of Stockholm Police Prostitution Unit, presented on the Sweden's experience with the Nordic Model, and Dr Ingeborg Kraus, psychologist and trauma expert from Germany, presented on Germany's experience since legalization.

UWCV held a cocktail reception to welcome Dr Kraus and Detective Inspector Haggstrom on Sept 19, which was attended by many guests including the Swedish Consul, reps from Mexican Consulate. MCd by CTV new journalist, Mi-Jung Lee.

The SWHR sub-committee on Prostitution issue arranged a meeting with the RCMP Head of provincial Counter. Exploitation Unit, CPL Sharon Simons on January 26, 2017. CPL Simons made a presentation outlining how her unit is dealing with trafficking and prostitution.

On March 29th, CPL Simons invited of SWHR Committee members to participate in the BC Provincial RCMP "Project Champion " event where we learned about their focus on the sexual exploitation and trafficking of underage girls and women. A follow up meeting was held with CPL Simons at Hycroft on May 2nd.

SWHR members joined with other groups of the Coalition against Prostitution to meet with the VPD Chief and other police staff members and discuss what they were doing regarding the enforcement of the 2014 federal law on prostitution, "The Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act". The sub-committee on Prostitution also met with a Sergeant from the VPD who is collecting information from various community groups on how we see the problem. She plans to come up with a report very soon.

In addition, the sub- committee attended a discussion group on "Implementing Feminist Oversight on Policing Violence against Women" at UBC Law School. It was very informative with visiting presenters from Philadelphia's Women's Law Project and Sunny Marriner from the Ottawa Rape Crisis Centre. We also attended a discussion with Jade Kake, a Maori Architect, who has a peripheral interest in the issue of prostitution and shared some insights with us, given that prostitution is decriminalized in New Zealand.

The SW&HR committee organized 3 advocacy events in 2016. For International Women's Day we welcomed over 80 members and guests to Hycroft for "Refugee Women: Living the Story." Four women shared their experiences as refugees and immigrants to Canada. On October 18th Dean Catherine Dauvergne, Dean of the Allard School of Law at UBC, presented Women and the New Politics of Immigration at our annual Persons Day Luncheon. To mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women, on Dec 6th, we hosted Maggie Raynor, author of In Polygamy's Shadow – From a Mormon Childhood to a Life of Choice.

Karen Ballantyne, Erica Pinsky; Co-Chairs

Committee Members: *Marlene Adam, Rose Beatty, Joan Beaty, Paige Brettle, Cleta Brown, Alex Warren, Cece Angus, Arden Bonokoski, Avalon Bourne, Christin Wiedemann, Emily Menzies, Helen Vallee, Lori Anne Eddy, Lynell Heikkila, Pat Patton, Rokzanna Basi, Suzanne Morgan, Valerie Bortoletto, Marg Huber, Noga Gayle, Patricia Grohne, Lynne Kent, Rachel Malek, Collette Oseen, Jan Rups Levett, Rhonda Sherwood, Carole Anne Soong, Bev Wong.*

VISUAL ARTS (VisArts)

The UWCV VisArts Committee has had a very successful year with the artists who were selected to exhibit in the Hycroft Gallery. There has been a variety of paintings, and photographs that proved very popular with guests and members alike. After last year's highly successful Hycroft Painters Show in July and August 2016 we are delighted to invite them back to exhibit their works again this summer.

The Open Call for applicants to exhibit in 2018 will commence in early September 2017. The jury will select the artists in late October 2017 to be scheduled from February 2018 through January 2019.

New appointment:

We are pleased to announce that Elizabeth Snow will take on the duties of VisArts Chair effective June 1, 2017. Elizabeth has served on the UWCV VisArts Committee for the past two years and has extensive experience on various other visual arts organizations.

Nicole Chang, Chair

Committee Members: Laura Clark, Mila Kostic, Susanna Peters, Elizabeth Snow, Jo Swann, Zelie Tan

AD HOC COMMITTEES

CHRISTMAS AT HYCROFT 2016

Organization

Christmas at Hycroft once again engaged the event planning services of Ingrid Edmonds of Cybervision to help us produce and deliver the 44th anniversary edition of C@H. Ingrid uses her connections and expertise to handle what can be called the 'outward facing' work of C@H in consultation with the Chair (setting the theme, look and feel of the event; securing sponsors, advertising, 2nd floor boutique participants and the vendors and concessions in the Courtyard and Coach House; negotiating and securing rentals of tents, furniture, heat and light; producing all print materials for advertising and signage; negotiating and coordinating all media including managing social media during the event; engaging performers; as well as being on-site to manage the logistics of the event) while the Chair and the team of convenors address the 'inward facing' aspects (all of the work which is done by UWCV members). The organization which is Christmas at Hycroft also relies on the UWCV hospitality department to run the Terrace Bistro as well as the Marketing & Member Recruitment Coordinator to coordinate the Artisans' Village and the Greeting Trees in the Courtyard in addition to her marketing duties related to C@H.

The Preview Night included a very popular Advent Calendar Wine Raffle, with a nominal admission charge for members' guests. As is our tradition of spreading Christmas cheer to our community, the Seniors' Reception was held in the week after C@H.

Guest Experience

While market competition for media sponsorship makes it increasingly difficult to secure the generous terms we once enjoyed, we again secured advertising on rotating billboards in the Vancouver area and there were rebroadcasts of the spot on Carmen TV/Joy TV which was filmed in Drawing Room of Hycroft. A new Christmas at Hycroft dedicated website (christmasathycroft.com) was inaugurated with links to the UWCV website.

Once again the Courtyard was a busy place with the Greeting Trees, the additional food option of Emelle's Red Truck, heated/covered seating, beautiful exotic cars on display, vendors' tents and the addition of a spectacular 26ft led-lit reindeer towering over the area. The decorating team did their magic throughout the house and the entertainment was a great combination of Christmas traditional and adult contemporary; with the Saturday night Date Night concept gaining momentum on attendees. Cloak Room service was efficiently and graciously provided by former member Diane Globe and Santa was once more 'in da house'.

Results

Attendance was 5500 guests, 900 more than last year. The Silent Auction with an expanded space in the Lett Room exceeded its \$10K target and remains an excellent replacement for the no longer permitted raffle. Overall, Christmas at Hycroft's contribution to HHPF was over \$77,000 – a record since 2010.

Conclusion

Each Convenor and or Team Leader provided recommendations to C@H 2017 based on their experiences and observations of the 2016 event. An updated procedures manual for Christmas at Hycroft has been prepared and passed to the C@H Chair 2017.

It is important to note that, in the absence of significant donations and legacy contributions, Christmas at Hycroft is the primary source of funding for the Hycroft Heritage Preservation Foundation. In addition to providing the necessary funds for the foundation to continue with its mandate of the preservation and maintenance of Hycroft; C@H also serves to legitimize the charitable purpose of HHPF. Notwithstanding the financial contribution; not only does C@H help the UWCV forge stronger relationships with the local community, C@H also provides the single largest membership drive opportunity for the UWCV by virtue of the attendance at the event by so many potential members. Last but certainly not least; by grace of the tremendous volunteer effort and commitment on the part of UWCV members in the run up to and at the event, C@H is a bonding experience like no other in the Club calendar. The 2016 team is grateful for the continued dedication of members and Club staff to Christmas at Hycroft – without which, all of the above would not be possible.

Dawn Longshaw, Chair, Christmas at Hycroft 2016

Committee Members: *Artisans Village - MJ Ankenman (with MMRC Kate Duggan); Christmas Shoppe - Joanne Gaspard; Knitters – Pam Addinall; Kitchen Creations - Diane Richer; Decorations - Lee Dennstedt & Paula Boleen; Entertainment - Louise Corral & Donalda Falconer; Seniors' Reception - Kathy Murphy; Treasury - Wendy Orvig; Volunteers - Cathy Barford & Margaret Imrie; Ticket Sales - Suzanne Poulin; Silent Auction - Callie Wong; House Chair – Dianne Dixon; Membership Committee – Judith Frost; Manager Hospitality – Alberto Cortes; Manager Finance– Sandra Penny*

INTEREST GROUPS

Alpine Adventures

Krista Klein & Andrea Schmelcher

20 members

We had a successful year with this new interest group and continue to gain members eager to enjoy the outdoors. We have a few hikes and easy walks planned this summer so hope to see everyone come out.

Book Groups

Afternoon

Maureen Attwell

18 members

The Afternoon Book Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 in the Board Room. We discuss both fiction and non-fiction books, selected by the members of the group, with an emphasis on current best sellers and Canadian authors. Books are selected a month in advance, the titles of which are mentioned in Hycroft Happenings.

Evening

Deborah Stellingwerff

20 members

The Evening Book Group meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6:15 in the Board Room. We discuss both fiction and non-fiction books, selected by the members of the group, with an emphasis on current best sellers and Canadian authors. We often follow the same reading selections as the Daytime Book Group. Books are selected a month in advance, the titles of which are mentioned in Hycroft Happenings.

Bridge Groups

Monday Afternoon

Diana Belhouse

4 members

Refreshments at 12:30 preceded our friendly weekly games of 12 hands played from 1:00 to 3:00 pm September through June and will continue every two weeks all summer. We appreciated the help of substitutes to cover vacations, etc. New members (both regular players and substitutes) are always welcome.

Monday Morning

Marlene Karnouk

22 members

In keeping with the Mission of the UWCV, the Monday Bridge group endeavours to promote fellowship and camaraderie amongst a group of women who enjoy playing the game of bridge in a relaxed and supportive environment. Come join us in the Ames Room at 10 am.

Wednesday Duplicate/Chicago

Joan Stewart

10 members

We meet from 1:00pm - 3:00 pm every Wednesday afternoon. There are usually between 4-8 attending each week for a stimulating afternoon of bridge.

Thursday

Kathy Murphy

12 members

During the year the location has been changed to the Green Solarium which has increased the number of members able to join us. We continue to learn and enjoy the challenges presented with the cards that are dealt.

Sunday Beginner's

Gwen Smith

7 Members

The beginner's bridge continues on Sundays at one pm with a talented and enthusiastic group of ladies all eager to better their bridge expertise. We have fun and we learn a few skills at the same time. Anyone interested in learning bridge in an atmosphere free from tension should come and give us a try.

Busy Gourmet

Louise Corral & Heather Lemieux

60 + members

We appreciate good food and good company. Thus we gather monthly to share a meal prepared to contribute to a theme envisioned by rotating volunteer co-hostesses. The imagination, determination, and taste never fails to amaze. We're gourmets as we appreciate the efforts and the flavours, but if we're busy we happily confess to our shortcuts - sharing the recipes and the stories of old favourites or new discoveries. This lively and often amusing discussion often provides hints on how to WOW guests with the least effort possible! We are delighted by the fact that our gourmet meals are usually beautifully balanced without pre-assignment as we continue to revere spontaneity. Come when your inner 'gourmet' encourages you, but don't fret if you are 'busy' and cannot. Though over 60 are on our list, we find between 16 and 30 participate each month. New and returning members are always welcome.

Chick Flicks

MJ Ankenman

50 members

Chick Flicks meet at Hycroft the fourth Thursday of every month to enjoy classic movies in house. We were fortunate to have a large flatscreen tv donated by a UWCV member to watch the movies on. An email is sent out a few days before with the announcement of the movie to those interested.

Club Connections

Paige Brettle & Deborah Stellingwerff

100+ members

Club Connections is where members come to make connections with other professionals and entrepreneurs. Even if you are not currently working or running business, you are welcome to come make connections by learning from others and sharing your own experiences and insights. Meetings begin with a chance for you to introduce yourself and your profession or business before we share a light meal and enjoy some informal networking. Then members are given opportunities to form connections through community building activities, book of the month discussions (business or self-improvement titles are chosen by the conveners with input from the members). Members also have the opportunity to give a brief informational presentation showcasing their area of business or professional expertise (20 mins max, no sales pitch). All members in attendance may provide their business cards or brochures on an information table.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH**Maureen Kling****20 + members**

This newly formed interest group has over 20 members. The group has focused its attention to date on investigating appropriate opportunities for outreach projects in the community and will be establishing initiatives in the very near future. A very successful short term project has been the recent clothing drive for Aunt Leah's and two VSB school programs, in conjunction with some other UWCV groups.

Crafts**MJ Ankenman****6 members**

This group gives members an opportunity to have a space and time to pursue whatever craft or hobby they have an interest in. We have members create photobooks, felting, knitting, crocheting and sewing. It is a great opportunity for members to do their "get around to it" projects. We will also have the occasional workshop if interest warrants. We meet once a week on Wednesdays noon to 3.

Dance Group**Mei Tan & Paula Boleen****10 Members + Partners**

Year-round, the Dance Group meets from 7-9pm on Wednesday evenings in the Hycroft ballroom. September through June, we learn one dance per month, (Waltz, Viennese Waltz, Fox Trot, Quickstep, Jive, Rumba, Cha Cha, Mambo, Samba and Tango), and during July and August, we meet for review sessions. We hire a professional who instructs us in international style. Our members are keen to attend dinner/dance occasions at Hycroft and to participate in dinner/dancing opportunities off-site.

Dance S.T.A.R.S. Group**Wendy Lee & Linda Wong****12 + members**

The Dance S.T.A.R.S. Group was started in January 2017 to provide UWCV members with a "no partner required" dance class. The group meets on Wednesdays from 5:45pm to 6:45pm in the Ballroom. The group learns new approaches to dance with the instructor's "Sophisticated Timing And Rhythmic Sequences" and up-tempo popular music. Jazz, swing and Latin dance routines learned have been enthusiastically performed in coordinated outfits at community dance events. The group looks forward to participating in summer outdoor dance events around the city while proudly wearing "Hycroft Dance" shirts, as well as to continued attendance at dinner/dance events at Hycroft to encourage all members to "get up and dance"!

Femme du Fromage**Louise Corral & Nicole Clement****35+ members**

Dedicated to the enjoyment of cheeses, beverages, and great company. We explore and learn about cheeses from around the world each fourth Tuesday of the month year round. Members take turn, usually in presenting pairs, to select a theme and present. The cheeses are matched with beverages, salads, and accoutrements to provide a satisfying paired meal for one set price. Due to space at the table there is usually a limit of 16 members each time. Interested *femmes* sign up to be on our invitation list; letters are sent two weeks in advance; reservations are confirmed, and members pay on the evening. Our Christmas joint Wine Pairings Dinner with the Wine Appreciation Group was a highlight we intend to repeat! New and returning members are very welcome to join in the fun in the coming year.

Financial Literacy**Mimi Chan****16 members**

Our group held fourteen meetings from September 2016 to June 2017 with an average attendance of 10 members. We discussed wide topics 'Anything Financial' from serious topics like Estate Planning to fun games of 'Financial Jeopardy'. Members are encouraged to bring on any financial queries for group discussions and to learn about the financial investments in a fun and relaxed manner.

French Conversation Groups**Beginner's****Marlene Karnouk****18 members**

The Beginner's French group met weekly on Tuesday for the first year. The group was diverse in their skill level and attendance varied. Generally speaking however, the comments were positive with students feeling supported and finding they have made progress.

French Conversation**Intermediate****Susan Bruchet, Noga Gayle, Suzanne Poulin****10+ Members**

The group met on Thursdays from 10.30 am - 12 noon, and continued to meet during the summer. Discussions were informal and covered a wide range of topics. Those interested remained for Soup/Lunch in the Bluebird Solarium where we sometimes conversed in French. Other club members, who were interested in French but could not attend the classes, were invited to join us for lunch by reserving in the office. Our classes were a lot of fun while at the same time we learned French! New members were always welcome.

Golf **Heather Lemieux & Kathy Murphy** **16 members**

Commencing in late April, we played at Country Meadows in Richmond on Monday mornings. The Convenors provided the tee times for those available each week. Different groupings were arranged so that fellowship and encouragement was available as we proceeded around the course.

Hooked on Needles **Pamela Addinall** **17 members**

The Hycroft Knitters meet twice a month to knit/crochet and socialize in a relaxed setting, usually in the lovely Farris Room, although the summer months frequently find us outside on the terrace. Many of us are busy creating with an eye to participating in Christmas at Hycroft.

This year Christmas at Hycroft saw improved shelving and merchandise display, improved customer flow throughout the Green Solarium, fewer physical barriers for those with walkers or wheelchairs, and higher profits for HHPF. A successful event all around.

Hycroft Painters **Eva Wideman** **10 members**

The Hycroft Painters meet Tuesday and Friday afternoons in the Coach House. Members work in many different mediums including acrylic, oil and watercolour. We bring our own supplies and work on our own projects but share fellowship and fun as we encourage each other in our work. New members are always welcome.

Hycroft Singers **Donalda Falconer, Director, Pat Stark, Accompanist** **28 members**

The Hycroft Singers continued to meet Tuesday afternoons to learn a variety of new music and to maintain our basic repertoire. This year we performed daily at Christmas AT Hycroft, sang at the Members' Party and highlighted our May dinner appearance with 3 outstanding fun and challenging numbers. I think we all had a great time! Soloists, percussion section AND A BACKUP BAND. It's a wonderful group....long may they carry on!

Issues Café **Janet Percy** **50 + members**

We continue to meet on the Fourth Monday, September thru June. Discussions feature topics which are specific and current, set and moderated by rotating hosts. Our evenings begin with a no-host social, a presentation leads a moderated discussion which concludes with a summary. Thereafter dinner is offered, requiring reservation. Over fifty members receive a monthly notice on the upcoming meeting. Season Nine discussions included: "The US Election - Its Candidates, The Rise of Populism", "The Current Constitutional Challenge About Private Health Care Launched by The Cambie Surgery Centre, Dr. Brian Day", "What a Green City Would Be Like for Women", "Cross Racial Identification - Do They/We All Look Alike", "Feminism in the 21st Century - A Social Justice Movement in Peril", "What is the Governments Role in Addressing the Current Opioid Crisis?", "Aunt Mary, Medical Doctor and Suffragette", "DEMENTIA: Humanity and the Cognitive Decline in Dementia", closing season author Don Chapman "The Lost Canadians" who spoke to "Equal Rights and Citizenship - It Is A Question of Gender".

Keep Fit **Margaret Couch & Cathy Lightfoot** **15 members**

We enjoy two exercise classes a week on Tuesdays at 10:00 am and Fridays at 11:00 am. An extra 15 minutes has been added to our Tuesday class for additional strength training and stretching. There is a charge of \$8.00 a session. Debbie Bloomfield leads us through warm-up, cardio, strength, stretching, balance exercises and relaxation. All ages and abilities are accommodated. After class, we head to the Oak Room for coffee, tea and chat or a quick lunch.

Mahjong (Day) **Callie Wong** **12 members**

Several original members continue to come and play Mahjong, to have fun and enjoy the friendly competition. Members meet every Thursday, 12:15 PM - 3 PM and pay \$1 per session.

Mahjong (Evening) **Wendy Lee** **15+ members**

The Monthly Evening Mahjong Group met on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm for friendly social games. A mix of experienced and new players attended. Informal instruction was provided for beginner players.

Meditation & Relaxation Group **Kathy Welter Nichols** **20+ members**

The Meditation Group started December 5, 2014, and since has run each Friday morning, from 9:30 to 10:30 am, where Hycroft is open. Attendees have enjoyed learning the various types of meditative practices,

including a drumming journey, guided visualization, silent meditation, chanting and embracing a personal practice of Mindfulness. This is an informal drop in group, and new members are present every week. All are welcome. This year we have been meeting in the Drawing Room. Sharing some attendees experiences: Some have noticed meditation is really helping with pain management. Others have found great help with sleep, reduced anxiety, and others found solace during grief work. We continue to grow and support each other, and welcome new members weekly. Our first Retreat - 2 nights on Bowen Island all focused on Meditation and the practice of mindfulness, has just completed and it was amazing. Contact Kathy Welter Nichols for more information. Welterk@shaw.ca There is no fee for this group

Millennials @ Hycroft **Farah Surani** **54 Members**

The Millennials @ Hycroft is an interest group that was formed in June of 2015. The aim of the group is to connect and link together the younger members at Hycroft in order to build a stronger millennial presence at the club. The group plans an event once a month that range from dinners to pajama parties, game nights, movie nights, and recently had a red carpet themed recognition event. To date, there are about 54 millennials at the club. We are looking forward to another year of millennials storming Hycroft!

Monday Writers' Group **Karen Breau** **8 members**

The Monday Writers' Group meets weekly, writing, sharing and critiquing our written stories. The group provides a lively, creative and non-threatening atmosphere which promotes improving writing skills and "finding your voice." The participants write from prompts during the meeting time as well as homework assignments. We were fortunate to have two guest speakers, Susan Boyce, a UWCV member, and Gordon Clark, a columnist at the Province and son of one of the group's members, to share their writing experiences with us.

Play Readers **Anne Thorvaldson & Isobel Rose** **13 members**

Our group meets at 10:30am on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month, September through June. We read an eclectic mix of both comedies and tragedies to suit differing tastes. Great acting skills are not required - just the desire to read a good play and discuss issues that may arise.

Scrabble **Mary Stewart** **6 members**

Scrabble Group meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 1:30 pm. All members are welcome.

Travel! **Randi Winter** **25 members**

TRAVEL! is still travelling around the calendar with no fixed date or time in order to accommodate out of town guest speakers and the times of the year, so we have met both in the mornings after meditation, afternoons after lunch, and evenings from 7 to 8:30 pm. We still definitely need a second convener to help with emails and to chair meetings or to bring their own travel passions to the club in a more formal way. Our members continue to travel often. We had some very interesting speakers in this season covering South and Latin American travel, open discussions but we continue to struggle with critical mass numbers for a viable number of people to come and not have me often embarrassed for the presenter who has spent time preparing. There is a growing interest in travelling, rather than just talking about travel and there are a few trips in the works over the next year, hopefully to New York, the UK and beyond based on special interests mentioned by members interested in travelling. If you are interested in sharing your experiences in the coming season or in travelling, please drop me a line at randi@passionatetravel.com. I can be reached by text or phone at 604 671-3965 Cell.

There will be one day and one evening meeting coming up over the next two months for anyone interested in joining these upcoming travel experiences. Please email, call or text me to be sure to be kept in the loop as spaces will be very limited. There will be a strong emphasis on art, culture, fashion and fun (of course great food, theatre and shopping) with an insider's perspective.

Please see the meeting updates in Hycroft Happenings for topics that may catch your interest. We will continue to explore a mix of evening and daytime meetings and the travel opportunities and topics are not restricted to SINGLES or just club members. We will be meeting some of the top cruise and river boat representatives, spas and interesting tour operators in the new year and your feedback, support and volunteering to help with a mailing list and occasional chairing meetings is greatly appreciated in order to continue the club as a viable special interest.

Join us to share travel tips, hear stories about places we have visited and learn about new travel destinations. Drop-ins are always welcome - and RSVPS are greatly appreciated.

Texas Hold'em Poker**Joanne Gaspard****10 members**

Poker meets every month on the second Thursday at 6:30 pm. There are typically 5 to 10 players who socialize and play poker.

Whiskey Women**Heidi Pullem****42 members**

Whiskey Women continues to grow, attracting members looking to have fun, make friends, and participate in something interesting and unconventional. Whiskey Women meet on the first Tuesday of the month to taste new whiskeys, learn the art of nosing and tasting, and most importantly, have fun. Members take turns selecting and presenting new offerings and toasts to the group, while enjoying a selection of buffet dinners provided by the house. Now in our sixth year, besides our annual Christmas dinner/pairing, we've introduced a couple of new attractions being an annual 'guest spirit' event, and hosting speakers from the whiskey industry.

Wine Appreciation**Nancy Wu****103 members**

Wine Appreciation had fun monthly wine tasting evenings throughout the year, with diverse themes ranging from "Wines to Read By" to "Potluck Wines" to "Sakes". We welcomed several guest presenters, among which was a return visit from the two ladies who had presented French wines to us a year ago. We attended the BC Hospitality Foundation's Dish 'n Dazzle at the Vancouver Convention Centre for a second year in a row. A highlight was a joint sit-down dinner in December with the Femmes du Fromage. The Chef created a delicious four-course cheese and wine pairing dinner. The gift basket of wines we donated to the C@H Silent Auction was again sold at over full value.